Hawaiian goose

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Generated May 16, 2023 01:35 AM UTC, IPaC v6.92.0-rc7



IPaC - Information for Planning and Consultation (https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/): A project planning tool to help streamline the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service environmental review process.

Hawaiian goose (nene), (*Branta (Nesochen) sandvicensis*): Nene are found on the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, and Kauai. They are observed in a variety of habitats, but prefer open areas, such as pastures, golf courses, wetlands, natural grasslands and shrublands, and lava flows. Threats to the species include introduced mammalian and avian predators, wind facilities, and vehicle strikes.

To avoid and minimize potential project impacts to nene we recommend you incorporate the following measures into your project description:

- Do not approach, feed, or disturb nene.
- If nene are observed loafing or foraging within the project area during the breeding season (September through April), have a biologist familiar with nene nesting behavior survey for nests in and around the project area prior to the resumption of any work. Repeat surveys after any subsequent delay of work of 3 or more days (during which the birds may attempt to nest).
- Cease all work immediately and contact the Service for further guidance if a nest is discovered within a radius of 150 feet of proposed project, or a previously undiscovered nest is found within the 150-foot radius after work begins.
- In areas where nene are known to be present, post and implement reduced speed limits, and inform project personnel and contractors about the presence of endangered species on-site.

nene 4(d) rule: A 4(d) rule was established at the time the nene was downlisted to threatened status. Under the 4(d) rule, the following actions are not prohibited under the Act, provided the additional measures described in the downlisting rule are adhered to:

- Take by landowners, or their agents, conducting intentional harassment in the form of hazing or other deterrent measures not likely to cause direct injury or mortality, or nene surveys.
- Take that is incidental to conducting lawful control of introduced predators or habitat management activities for nene.
- Take by authorized law enforcement officers for the purpose of aiding or euthanizing sick, injured, or orphaned nene; disposing of dead specimens; and salvaging a dead specimen that may be used for scientific study.